

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

## Death toll has passed 5,000

*Thousands more are still missing from floods in Libya*

By HATEM MOHAREB and TAREK EL-TABLAUW  
Bloomberg News  
Tribune News Service

The death toll from raging floods in Libya's port town of Derna surged to at least 5,000, as rescuers scrambled to find thousands more missing after a devastating storm ravaged the nation's northeastern coast.

Hardest hit by Mediterranean storm Daniel was Derna. A deluge of water swept through the city of 90,000 after two dams broke, washing away buildings and even neighborhoods. Officials in the eastern part of the divided OPEC nation said water levels had reached the fourth or fifth floors of some buildings.

At least 5,000 were killed as a result of the storm and ensuing flooding in Derna and another 7,000 wounded, Osama Ali, spokesman for Libya's Emergency Authority, told Bloomberg by phone. Estimates of the number still missing ranged between 5,000 and 10,000, according to various international and Libyan officials.

The death toll has now eclipsed the fatalities in Morocco, where more than 2,900 were killed by the most powerful earthquake to hit the North African kingdom in more than a century. The scale of the destruction and the difficulty of the rescue and relief effort in both countries are also comparable.

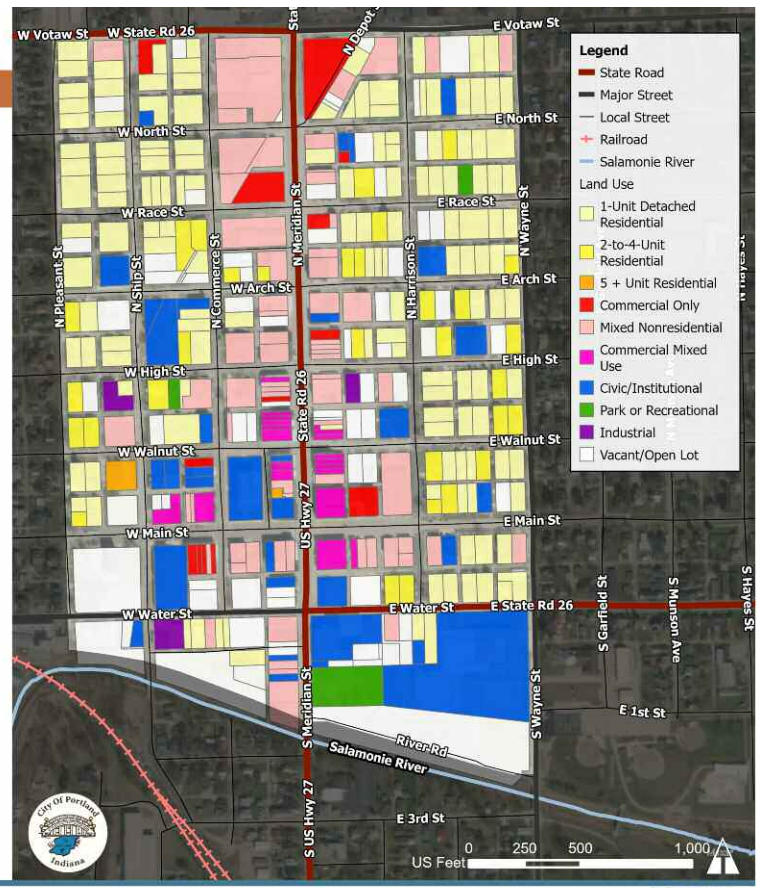
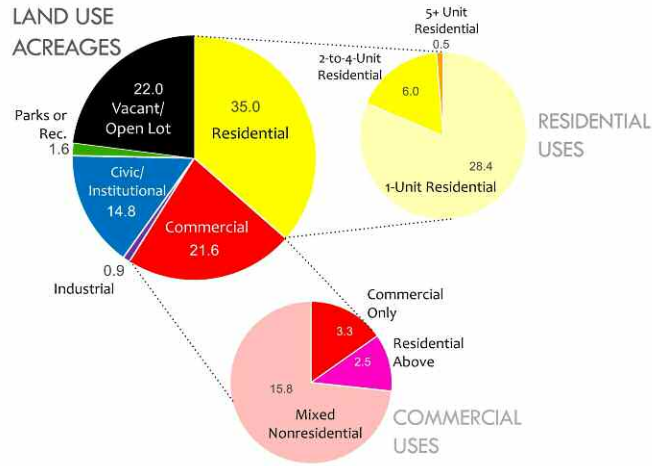
But compounding the challenges in Libya is its long-running political division. Rival administrations in the west and east mean the country, despite its oil wealth, has suffered a dearth of investment in infrastructure and social services.

See Toll page 5

## Plan in process

### LAND USE PATTERNS AND CHARACTERISTICS

Downtown Portland follows a common land use pattern, where commercial uses are concentrated along a major thoroughfare (Meridian Street), while residential uses are located away from the thoroughfare on quieter local streets. Generally, Downtown Portland has a greater variety of housing types than the rest of the city. Many of its commercial buildings have retained their historic architectural elements but not their historic aboveground residential uses.



Rundell Ernstberger Associates

This chart developed by design and planning firm Rundell Ernstberger Associates shows current land use patterns in downtown Portland and the surrounding area. The firm is working with Portland Redevelopment Commission to develop a new downtown revitalization plan.

## Series of focus groups and open house will lead to presentation of recommendations tonight

By RAY COONEY  
The Commercial Review

Local government officials, downtown stakeholders and Portland residents spent Tuesday discussing needs, wants and challenges for the downtown area.

A look at the results will be presented Thursday night.

A day-long series of focus groups and an evening open house led by design and planning firm Rundell Ernstberger Associates were the first steps in a three-day process that is part of Portland Redevelopment Commission's push to update its redevelopment plan for downtown Portland.

"I feel like we got a pretty good cross section ... not only in our focus groups, but tonight. ... There was a lot of agreement across all of the focus groups and what we're seeing tonight," said Portland

Redevelopment Commission consultant Ed Curtin of CWC Latitudes during the open house at John Jay Center for Learning. "To me that's, in a way, reassuring. There's a pretty common understanding of what some of the issues are ..."

Some of the challenges and needs brought up during the focus groups — they included business owners, Portland Main Street Connect, elected officials, redevelopment commission members and other community leaders — and at the open house were flooding, housing, trails and empty/dilapidated downtown buildings. Among the key strengths of the downtown area were its assets — John Jay Center for Learning, Jay Community Center, Arts Place, nearby parks, etc. — and its small-town charm.

As part of preparation for

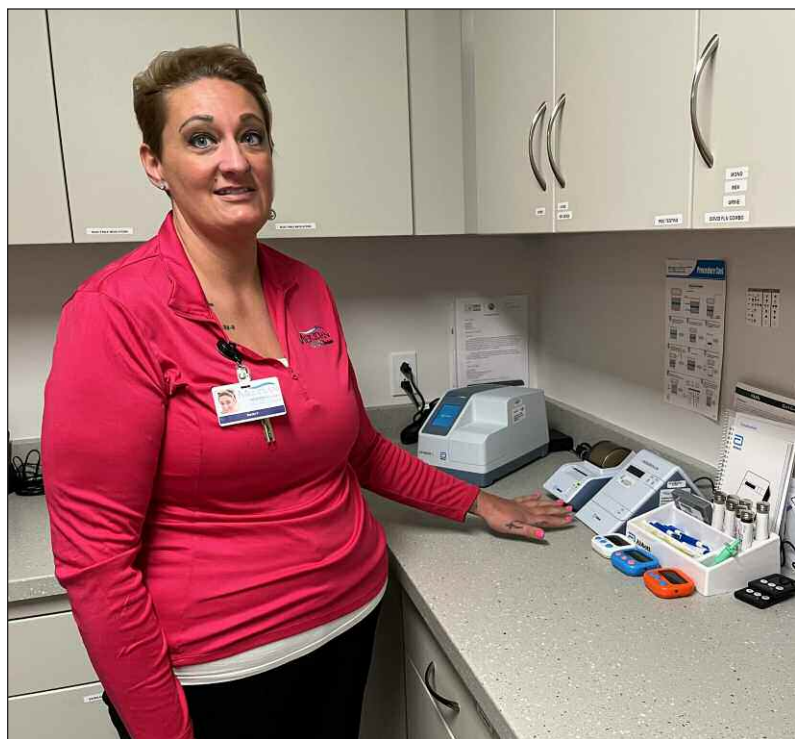
this week's work, Rundell Ernstberger Associates looked at existing plans for the community, considered what was already in place and where there might be gaps in terms of public policy, and surveyed the condition and use of downtown buildings. The information gathered was turned into a display board for the community to review Tuesday. Attendees then went through a series of exercises that allowed them to identify what areas are most important to improving the downtown and what might best fit in the city.

"What we wanted to do was to understand what they thought the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities were for downtown," said Cynthia Bowen, a partner at Rundell Ernstberger Associates. "Where they thought the downtown could be in the next

10 to 20 years. All with the idea of helping us understand what could be for the future and what we needed to address. ...

"We want to make sure that we are identifying things that are in line with what people want for the future ..."

The Rundell Ernstberger Associates team and Curtin will spend Wednesday reviewing all of the information gathered and then creating a presentation of recommendations and findings. Thursday will be spent revising a first draft of a redevelopment plan for downtown Portland, and it will be presented to the public at 5 p.m. Thursday at John Jay. "And we'll see what people think of the concept that we come up with," said Bowen. "And then based on that feedback we will go back and refine and continue to develop."



The Commercial Review/Louise Ronald

Practice manager Sarah Fredrickson shows the point-of-care lab at Meridian Health Services' new office at 406 W. Votaw St. in Portland. The office opened last month as part of a series of new facilities for the organization.

## Meridian is growing

By LOUISE RONALD  
The Commercial Review

Meridian Health Services is expanding its presence in Jay County.

"Meridian is growing," said Sarah Fredrickson, practice manager for the new office at 406 W. Votaw St. in Portland, the urgent care center in IU Health Jay and Meridian MD-Family Medical Care in Dunkirk.

Right now, the new Portland office has one nurse practitioner providing primary care in collaboration with an off-site physician and is looking to add another. The building was constructed with that kind of growth in mind, Fredrickson said. There are six exam rooms (including special accommodations for larger or handicapped patients) and a point-of-care lab which can provide immediate results. The office also will do labs, drug screenings and vaccinations.

*New office opened last month and organization is looking to expand its local services*

And it will offer more than primary care.

The building has a dental wing with a panoramic X-ray machine and a lab that can prepare dentures. Fredrickson said a dentist has been hired and she expects dental care to be available in the office within the next few weeks.

Future plans also include having a pharmacy at the site, said Fredrickson.

In the mid-1970s, when the company first came to Portland, it was known for providing

behavioral/mental health help. That service continues in the Water Street office (with private rooms available at the Votaw Street office for telehealth consultations for Water Street clients if required).

According to its website, the company began moving into other kinds of health services around 2010. Work on the Dunkirk primary care office was initiated in 2015 and the urgent care office in the hospital opened in 2017.

See Growing page 2

### Deaths

**Brian Mahorney**, 44,  
Montpelier  
Details on page 2.

### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 72 degrees Tuesday. The low was 55.

Tonight's low will be in the upper 40s. Expect sunny skies Friday with a high of 73 and a homecoming kickoff temperature of 70.

For an extended outlook, see page 2.

### In review

Arts Place will host a free concert by New Frontiers, a Journey tribute band, at 7 p.m. Thursday at Hudson Family Park.

### Coming up

Friday — Coverage of this week's Jay County Council meeting.

Saturday — Results from the JCHS homecoming football game against Bluffton.





# Hoosiers urged to use hotline

By CASEY SMITH  
Indiana Capital Chronicle  
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Indiana officials are renewing their push to make Hoosiers aware of the 988 suicide prevention hotline, although more funding will be needed to further expand the state's crisis response system.

One year after the federal crisis number was rebranded and relaunched as 988, Indiana reported one of the highest in-state response rates for calls. The state's crisis

hotline answers nearly 4,000 calls per month.

Dr. Daniel Rusyniak, secretary of the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA), said during a news conference Tuesday that "with more awareness, we're going to receive additional calls."

For now, that's a good thing, he said. Many Hoosiers still aren't aware that 988 exists — meaning they aren't being connected to necessary, sometimes life-saving resources.

"Since we launched 988 last

July, we have seen tremendous benefits already — both in the number of folks who are reaching out to call to us that we can help, but also in our numbers. He noted, too, that Indiana routinely is in the top five states for connecting callers with a local counselor," Rusyniak said.

"I think everyone, at some point, is touched by mental health crises, suicides, substance use disorder," he continued. "And so I do think what we're doing is so impactful."

A September 2022

report from the Indiana Behavioral Health Commission estimated that one in five Hoosiers experience mental illness each year, and that for every four Hoosiers treated for mental illness, one additional Hoosier is left untreated.

Between 2011 and 2021, the age-adjusted suicide death rate per 100,000 residents jumped 22% in the Hoosier State, from 13.5 deaths to 16.4 deaths, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

## Obituaries

**Brian Alexander "Runt" Mahoney**, April 25, 1979-Aug. 15, 2023. Services will be at 6 p.m. Saturday, at Cornerstone Community Church.

.....  
The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge. They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services.

There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary services.

## CR almanac

| Friday<br>9/15  | Saturday<br>9/16  | Sunday<br>9/17   | Monday<br>9/18  | Tuesday<br>9/19  |
|---|---|--|---|--|
|   |   |  |   |  |
| <b>74/49</b>  | <b>75/53</b>  | <b>72/49</b>   | <b>72/50</b>  | <b>74/54</b>   |
| Sunny skies are expected Friday. The low at night may be around 49 degrees. | Saturday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies and a high of 75. The low will be in the low 50s at night. | There's a 30% chance of showers and thunderstorms on Sunday. | Another slight chance of showers. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high of 72. | More mostly sunny skies are in the forecast for Tuesday, when the high will be in the mid 70s. |

## Lotteries

**Powerball**  
Estimated jackpot:  
\$461 million

**Mega Millions**  
3-43-50-51-65  
Mega Ball: 13  
Megaplier: 2  
Estimated jackpot:  
\$122 million

**Hoosier**  
Tuesday  
Midday  
Daily Three: 8-4-8  
Daily Four: 4-6-3-8  
Quick Draw: 1-2-12-13-14-19-22-28-31-37-42-46-53-54-57-59-62-66-69-73

Evening  
Daily Three: 0-1-4  
Daily Four: 8-9-6-6  
Quick Draw: 7-8-9-13-18-19-29-32-37-41-48-50-51-53-57-59-67-70-73-77

**Ohio**  
Tuesday  
Midday  
Pick 3: 0-1-7  
Pick 4: 4-9-2-0  
Pick 5: 3-4-3-9-5  
Evening  
Pick 3: 7-9-4  
Pick 4: 7-2-2-0  
Pick 5: 4-7-5-5-8  
Rolling Cash: 4-6-12-19-28

## Markets

**Cooper Farms Fort Recovery**  
Corn.....5.31  
Late Sept. corn.....5.31  
Wheat.....4.96

**POET Biorefining Portland**  
Corn.....5.56  
Late Sept. corn.....5.31  
Oct. corn.....4.76

**The Andersons Richland Township**  
Corn.....5.21  
Sept. corn.....4.91  
Beans.....12.96

Sept. beans.....13.35  
Wheat.....5.11

**Central States Montpelier**  
Corn.....5.32  
Late Sept. corn.....5.12  
Beans.....14.14  
Late Sept. beans.....14.09  
Wheat.....5.65

**Heartland St. Anthony**  
Corn.....5.22  
Oct. corn.....4.37  
Beans.....13.25  
Sept. beans.....12.90  
Wheat.....5.11

## Today in history

In 1638, 31-year-old clergyman John Harvard of Charlestown, Massachusetts, died. He left his library and half of his estate to a local college, which adopted the name Harvard College.

In 1741, George Friedrich Handel finished his "Messiah" after working on it non-stop for 23 days.

In 1752, Great Britain adopted the Gregorian calendar, which moved the date ahead 11 days.

In 1847, U.S. forces led by Gen. Winfield Scott captured Mexico City. The event ended the military phase of the Mexican-American War.

In 1901, Theodore Roosevelt was sworn in as president following the death of William McKinley, who had been shot eight days earlier.

In 1972, Jack's Surplus City of Portland was robbed of an unde-

termined amount of cash. Store manager Clarence Theurer discovered the burglary, through which those involved apparently entered the store by climbing a ladder to the roof, removing a piece of plywood that was covering a hole for an air conditioner and lowering themselves in by rope. Evidence showed they tried to drill the safe open before knocking its hinges off.

In 2020, Lydia Keihn and Lindy Wood both finished in the top 10 to lead the Jay County High School girls cross country team to a third-place finish in the Monroe Central Invitational. Keihn, a sophomore, was the runner-up in 21 minutes, 23.1 seconds, while Wood, a junior, was seventh in 22:12.

—The CR

## Citizen's calendar

**Monday**  
5 p.m. — Jay School Board, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland.  
5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.

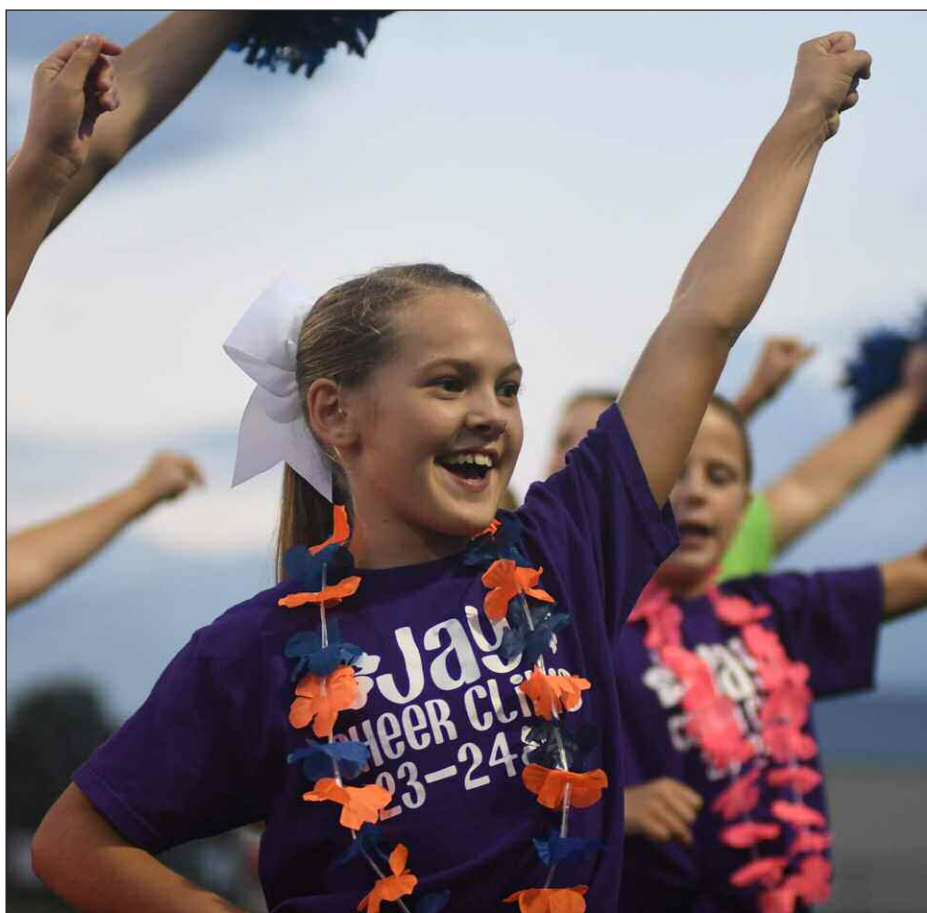
6:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery School Board,

community room, high school, 400 E. Butler St.  
7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St.

**Wednesday**  
4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, airport, 661 W. 100 North.

## Halftime cheer

Sophie Warvel cheers on the sidelines during halftime of Friday night's Jay County High School football game against Adams Central. She was one of 105 participants in the JCHS cheerleading clinic for kindergarten through sixth graders.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

## Growing ...

Continued from page 1  
In recent years, dental care, pediatric care, women's care and school health facilities have been added to Meridian's offerings throughout the region. The Votaw Street building was one of half a dozen new offices opened around the region — Richmond, Marion, Fort Wayne, New Castle and Muncie — last month.

It's all part of Meridian's vision of providing "whole-person health,"

Fredrickson said. "We don't want any barriers to care."

Meridian accepts all insurance. "When we have a patient that doesn't have any insurance, we do our best to help them," Fredrickson said.

The company offers a sliding payment scale for those who qualify and will help the uninsured apply for coverage.

"We don't turn anyone away," she said.

So far, the new office is proving popular.

"We get new patients daily," said Fredrickson. "The community has responded well."

As the practice grows, so will the need for staff. Right now, four individuals work in the Votaw Street office. Fredrickson estimates there will be about 15 employees if all plans come to fruition.

"We are hiring," she said.

## Capsule Reports

### Drove off road

Damage is estimated between \$10,000 and \$25,000 after a Geneva man drove off U.S. 27 in Jay County to avoid hitting another man's vehicle about 12:23 p.m. Sunday.

Leonardo Palomo-Arrona, 19, was driving his 2021 Toyota Camry south on the highway. He told police as he was attempting to turn west onto county road 300 North, Jonathan Alexander turned a 2022 Ford F250 in front of him. Palomo-Arrona said he had to drive into the ditch to avoid hitting the car Alexander was driving, according to a Jay County Sheriff's Office report.

Palomo-Arrona hit a rock on the side of the road, causing damage to his car. Alexander told police he was driving the truck for Traffic Management of Fort Wayne north on the highway and also began to

turn west onto county road 300 North when he noticed Palomo-Arrona driving through the ditch, according to the report. Alexander told police he didn't see Palomo-Arrona before turning.

Palomo-Arrona's vehicle was towed.



### AMERICAN LEGION POST 211

Welcomes the:  
**JAMSTAR BAND**  
Classic Rock & Blues  
**September 16, 2023**  
**7pm to 10pm**

50/50 drawing • Public Welcome  
Come Enjoy with us at 211 W Walnut, Portland

### SERVICES

#### Today

**Pyle**, Jackie: 2 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

**Heston**, Terri: 5 p.m., MJS Mortuaries, 109 S. Meridian St., Redkey.

**Moore**, Terry: 7 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

#### Friday

**Kegerreis**, Waineta: 10:30 a.m., Zwick & Jahn Funeral Home, 520 N. 2nd St., Decatur.

Service listings provided by  
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progressiveofficeproducts.com

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## Safe Haven box gets donation

Portland Fire Department recently received a donation to support its "baby box." The Church of the Most Holy Trinity of Bryant recently donated \$422.62 to support the Safe Haven Baby Box, which was installed at Portland Fire Station last year. Portland Fire Chief Mike Weitzel explained there are ongoing expenses of about \$800 per year to lease and monitor the baby box. The box located in the center of the four overhead doors at the fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St., is equipped with a mattress pad, blanket and hat. Anyone who feels they can no longer take care of their infant can surrender their child anonymously using the box. Once a baby is in the box, an alarm is activated. The goal is to have someone tending to the baby within two minutes. "It is here and available," said Weitzel. "We were fortunate enough that we had a gentleman start the whole process on that and get the ball rolling for us to be able to have one."

## Births

**Lyons**  
Samuel Ross, a son, was born Sept. 5 at St. Vincent Randolph to Ben and Carissa Lyons of Portland. He weighed 6 pounds, 6 ounces. Grandparents are Joe and Connie Lyons of Portland and Mike and Joan Wilkins of Bryant. Great-grandparents are Bob and Joyce Lyons of Portland and Margaret Wilkins of Pella, Iowa.

**Reynolds**  
Kale Kamryn, a son,

was born Sept. 1 at St. Vincent Randolph to Kamryn Reynolds and Brianna Weist of Winchester. He weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces. Grandparents are Brian and Andrea Weist of Winchester, Crystal Wynn of Harrisville and Ryan Reynolds of Union City, Ohio. Great-grandparents are David and Carol Weist of Winchester, Janna Wynn of Winchester, Tim Wynn of Winchester and Rick and Melinda Reynolds of Fort Recovery, Ohio.

## Community Calendar

Notices will appear in Community Calendar as space is available. To submit an item, email news@thecr.com.

**Thursday**  
PIKE FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS — Will meet at 5 p.m. Sept. 14 at Pizza Hut in Portland.  
INDIANA UNIVERSITY HEALTH JAY HOSPITAL OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 6 p.m. the second Thursday of each month in Indiana University Health Jay Hospital Conference Room B. The group is for ostomy and intestinal diversion patients and their friends and family to offer mutual support and learn about the latest products and information.  
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY POST 211 — Will meet at 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 14, at the post at 211 W. Walnut St., Portland.  
CELEBRATE RECOVERY — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each

Thursday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.  
JAY COUNTY TRAILS CLUB — Will meet at 7 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at Jay Community Center.  
**Friday**  
PAST RECOVERY SERVICES — Peer Addiction Support Team recovery support group meets at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. each Friday at the Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition office at 100 N. Meridian St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3259.  
DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY — Is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the first and third Friday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.  
**Saturday**  
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 10

# Mother can't forgive her son

DEAR ABBY: I'm a recovering alcoholic who has been sober for more than 12 years. My road to sobriety has been long and dark, but I am proud of turning my life around and staying sober. My problem is how my mother treats me about it. She keeps reminding me of all the mistakes I made and the people I hurt when I was still drinking.

I also struggle with manic depression and have a hard enough time forgiving myself for my past actions, let alone having someone continually bring up every single one. I try every day to be a better person, and I'm an open book when it comes to my life and flaws. My mother constantly accuses me of falling into my old habits and says I'm lying about it, even though she's been given truth and proof that I'm not. My long-term boyfriend and other family members can vouch for me. It's to the point where she's so in my head and cruel with the things she says that I'm spiraling back into depression, which is taking a toll on my confidence and mental health.

I have tried cutting her out of my life, but I live with a family member she's close to, so she shows up at our house and continues her belittling. I'm starting to lose patience and also my sanity. What do you do? Please help! — STILL STAYING SOBER

**DEAR SOBER:** Understand that your toxic mother may have some kind of fixation on torturing you. When she shows up, absent yourself immediately. From your experience, you know she's the kind of person who drives others to drink, so involve yourself with her as little as humanly possible. Your sobriety and sanity depend on it.

DEAR ABBY: My fiance and I are

Dear Abby



going back and forth about setting a date for our wedding. We have begun arguing lately about normal relationship issues. He calls them fights, when all I'm trying to do is express my feelings so we get on the same page. Then, instead of talking, he shuts down and clams up. It makes me crazy.

Now he's saying he won't set a date until our relationship is "healthy." He says we fight too much; I think it's a lack of communication. Now I say nothing because I'm afraid he won't want to set a date at all. I don't know what to do. Setting a date is important to me, but I'm starting to wonder if it's even worth it. Please help. — DESTINATION UNKNOWN IN NEW JERSEY

**DEAR D.U.:** Tell your fiance you think he was absolutely RIGHT when he told you he didn't want to set a wedding date until your relationship is "healthy." (I agree, by the way.) Tell him you love him and how important you feel communication is in any relationship. Then suggest the two of you seek premarital counseling.

Premarital counseling allows couples to preempt issues that could cause problems in a marriage, from child rearing to money to sex. If your fiance's method of handling disagreements is to shut down, there may be a way to correct it during some of those sessions.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a woman in my late 30s. I live in the Midwest, where towns can be conservative,

and residents tend to be judgmental. For as long as I can remember, I have always found people of both sexes to be attractive. I don't act on it because I am married to a straight man I love and plan to stay with for as long as he'll have me.

During the last year, I admitted to him that I am bisexual. He said he has wondered, but loves me regardless. Do I need to disclose this information to family? I have no intention of telling my co-workers, as they are mostly female and I don't want to create awkwardness.

I recently bought a T-shirt that says "Why Not Both?" and I would love to wear it. But I'm concerned about being judged or not taken seriously when, and if, I get asked about my shirt. What do you think? Am I making it a bigger deal than it needs to be? If I wear the shirt around family, should I tell them the truth if they ask? — BI IN INDIANA

**DEAR BI:** Wear that shirt only when you are ready to come out because, once you put it on, you are sure to be asked about it. Being bisexual does not mean that a person is attracted to every person they encounter. As a married woman, you have made your choice about the gender of your partner and will (presumably) remain faithful. Should you divorce, your next partner may be a woman — or another man. (Who knows?) I see no reason to disclose your bisexuality to your family unless you are ready to make it common knowledge.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

## Sudoku

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 |   |   |   |   |   | 7 |   |   |
| 1 |   |   | 2 |   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   | 4 |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   | 4 | 2 |
| 5 |   |   | 9 |   |   |   |   | 7 |
|   |   | 6 | 1 |   |   |   |   | 8 |
|   |   | 1 |   |   | 5 |   |   |   |
| 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 |   | 1 |   |   |   |
|   | 2 |   |   | 9 | 3 |   | 1 | 6 |

Level: Intermediate

### Wednesday's Solution

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 9 | 7 | 8 |
| 1 | 7 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 9 | 3 | 6 | 5 |
| 9 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| 8 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 9 |
| 6 | 4 | 9 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 7 |
| 7 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 6 |
| 5 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 9 | 4 |
| 4 | 8 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 3 |
| 2 | 9 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 7 | 5 | 1 |

The objective is to fill a nine-by-nine grid so that each column, each row, and each of the nine three-by-three boxes (also called blocks or regions) contains the digits from 1 to 9 only one time each.

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# What do the numbers really mean?

By MORTON J. MARCUS

Faye of the Forest warned me, "Don't do it! You'll just show how much you don't know. I won't stick around for this." However, Myrtle my Muse said, "Do it! It will make you feel good. And I'll go microwave some popcorn."

With fashionable Faye flown, I followed the advice from my full-figured friend.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, in the fourth quarter of 2003, the average weekly wage in the U.S. was \$767, with Connecticut leading at \$992. Indiana came in 30th among the 50 states at \$675, 12% below the national average.

At the close of 2022, Connecticut had dropped to fifth place

## Eye on the Pie



behind the new leader, New York, where the average weekly wage was \$1,790. Indiana now ranked 39th at \$1,131, 18% below the national \$1,385.

That's the main story of economic advances over the past 19 years for our state. Without any adjustment for inflation, or the more obscure regional price parity index, Indiana workers gained \$456 in higher weekly

wages in 2022 than in 2003. That put us in 48th place nationally for wage growth, fortunately ahead of both Kentucky and Mississippi.

But why concentrate on something so gloomy as actual Hoosier wages when the horizon is always painted brighter than reality. It's true our annual rate of job growth has averaged 2.75%, 46th best in the nation, but the annual economic development report for the state keeps boasting about new records being set and new directions of great promise just ahead.

However, here's a neglected number to put a smart crease in your pants and a smile on your face. Indiana, in 2022, retained

its high national ranking in jobs per establishment. Yes, sir and madam, the Hoosier State was, and is, second in nation in this unappreciated metric.

You might wonder, "What is an establishment?" Well, it's a place of employment. A company may have a host of establishments, like a drug store chain where you get relief for that burger-chain burger.

At the national level, jobs per establishment stood at 15.6 in 2003. Tennessee led all states with a rousing 20.6. Who's breathing hard behind? Indiana at 18.8.

Time passes. It's 2022 and the national figure had fallen by 2.6 to 12.9. Tennessee fell to fourth place; hard-charging Texas

roared into the premier spot, yet Indiana continued in second place. Indeed, Indiana did see a decline of 2.1 to 16.6 but that, nonetheless, was 14th best in the county.

What happened was the number of workers did not increase as fast as the number of establishments. Shrinking big factories and expanding service sites? Do our economic development leaders think this metric sets us up for harder times than other states? Do they think?

Yes, economics gives us numbers as exciting and abstruse as any TV sports program.

Marcus is an economist. Email him at [mortonjmarcus@yahoo.com](mailto:mortonjmarcus@yahoo.com).

## Holding promotions compromises readiness

The Virginian-Pilot  
Tribune News Service

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Mark Milley, the highest-ranking and most senior commander in the nation's armed forces, is scheduled to retire at the end of the month. What happens then is anyone's guess.

That's because football-coach-turned-U.S. Sen. Tommy Tuberville shamefully continues to erode military leadership and compromise national security by blocking the promotions of hundreds of service members — including those at the top of the command structure — from action in the Senate.

The United States is today without confirmed chiefs to lead the Navy, Army and Marine Corps. Those three critical positions are among more than 300 officer promotions languishing as a result of Tuberville's truculence. That the service branches are operating with so many promotions on hold is a testament to the professionalism of our armed forces.

Tuberville's actions are also insulting to those same service members, tens of thousands of whom live and work in Hampton Roads, who are right to expect that military readiness never takes a back seat to partisan politics. Such a naked abuse of power is cause for widespread public outrage.

This has gone on for nearly a year. Tuberville announced in December 2022 that he would stand in the way of promotions in order to bend the Pentagon to his will on the issue of abortion.

You see, Tuberville thinks the military is best served by depriving its female service members from reproductive choices about their bodies. He firmly believes that a woman who joins the armed forces and is stationed in a state which severely restricts access to contraceptives and abortion services should simply accept it.

The policy he opposes, introduced in the wake of the Supreme Court's Dobbs decision overturning Roe v. Wade, allows "troops and dependents, consistent with federal law, to take time off and use official travel to get to other states for reproductive care not available locally," according to the Associated Press. It complies with law that no federal funds can be used to pay for abortion services.

It used to be that members of our armed forces might be wary of an over-

## Guest Editorial

seas deployment to a warzone. Now they might think twice before joining, knowing that being sent to the wrong state will severely limit their choices should they become pregnant.

That's if Tuberville gets his way. And the hissy fit he's throwing — the damage it has caused and the threat of further disruption — has some cowardly urging the Pentagon and the White House to compromise. Former Democratic Sen. Kyrsten Sinema naively believes the two sides should find middle ground.

Ask the military or law enforcement why they don't negotiate with terrorists and they'll tell you that capitulation only invites further action. Give an inch and they'll take a mile.

The same goes for Tuberville. If he is rewarded for single-handedly blocking experienced and talented service members from ascending to leadership positions, then others will follow in his reckless, ill-considered path.

If Tuberville so opposes this policy, he should introduce legislation to prohibit it. He has not done so. Instead, he has taken the extraordinary step of calling on Democrats to propose such a bill, all but assuring that this stalemate continues.

How does any of this serve the military? Officers who devoted their career to the armed forces are being blocked from moving up the chain of command. The highest position in the Pentagon may soon sit vacant, a prospect that surely delights the nation's enemies. Stalling those promotions means junior officers, whose promotions may not require Senate approval, are also stuck in place. And what message does this send to female service members or those who are contemplating joining the military?

This never should have been allowed to fester, but there remains only one option: Tuberville should put the nation's security first by lowering his cynical, irresponsible roadblock to military promotions and allow them to proceed in the bipartisan manner they had before he set foot in the Senate.



## With support, Ukraine will succeed

By MATT DIMMICK  
Chicago Tribune  
Tribune News Service

It's fair to say Ukraine's counteroffensive is moving slower than anticipated — but for good reason. We've all heard the saying, "Slow and steady wins the race." In this case, Ukraine's strategy is just that — a slow, steady and deliberate race to the Sea of Azov, where Ukrainians can divide Russia's army and pummel the remnants into surrendering territory that has been occupied for months.

In the end, I'm confident this strategy will prove successful against a weakened and demoralized Russian force that is under extraordinary stress.

For those who are disheartened by the slow pace of the Ukrainian offensive so far, it's pertinent to remember historical examples. Immediately after the D-Day landings during World War II, one of the most spectacularly successful military campaigns in history, Allied forces fought desperately to crack entrenched German positions. They advanced only a few miles from their beachheads in several weeks of hard fighting before finally breaking through and advancing rapidly. The Ukrainians' counteroffensive is also facing extraordinary headwinds, but their hard and bloody fighting today is likely setting the conditions for similar breakthroughs in the future.

On paper, the success of the Ukrainian counteroffensive seems destined to fail. The Ukrainians face a deeply entrenched Russian army that has had months to prepare fortified positions along every conceivable axis of advance. The depth of these complex defensive positions extends for several miles with multiple reinforcing belts and are seeded with hundreds of thousands of mines. The Russians also have massive stockpiles of shells on hand to pummel Ukrainians as they attempt to breach those defensive lines. Additionally, even after Ukraine clears

### Matt Dimmick



lanes through dense minefields, the Russians are capable of reseeding those openings with munitions delivered by artillery and drones.

However, Ukraine is not fighting on paper, and it possesses a number of advantages over the Russians. First, the Russian army is not a healthy organization, and unhealthy armies tend to fracture and disintegrate in the face of sustained pressure. The Wagner Group rebellion led by mercenary chief Yevgeny Prigozhin in June was simply the tip of the iceberg. Dissatisfaction is endemic throughout the entire Russian army, in which troops at every level know this war is being badly led, badly managed and badly resourced.

As a result, morale among Russian soldiers is at rock bottom. Poorly trained and poorly led troops risking their lives for reasons they don't entirely understand are ripe for being routed. These miserable conscripts are also joined by tens of thousands of convicts who have been hauled out of prison to serve on the frontlines as expendable cannon fodder in which their focus is on personal survival rather than any sense of duty. Needless to say, none of these conditions helps bolster overall unit cohesion or a will to fight.

On the other hand, Ukraine's will to fight is strong and deeply felt by troops who are fighting to expel invaders from their home and protect the lives of their loved ones. The Ukrainians fight with a ferocity and determination that is borne out of a shared sense of purpose. That fighting spirit manifests itself daily as Ukrainian forces deliberately and painstakingly advance against Rus-

ian positions despite the extraordinary obstacles they face.

Another advantage is that while the Ukrainians are achieving success on the front lines, albeit in slow and incremental ways, they are steadily degrading supply depots, logistics commands and major headquarters throughout the depth of Russian defenses thanks to excellent intelligence and precision weaponry. Over time, these strikes on high-value targets are likely to achieve the type of cumulative effects that create gaps and pockets of weakness the Ukrainians can exploit with rapid advances.

Finally, while Russia continues to bleed combat power over time with diminishing means for replacing essential equipment, Ukrainian forces are benefiting from a steady flow of material support extended by dozens of nations — through federally funded aid and nonprofit organizations. I work for Spirit of America, a U.S. nonprofit that is helping provide Ukraine with the support it needs to win. I've seen firsthand how this assistance has changed the trajectory of the war. Every piece of additional support bolsters Ukraine's forces and increases their chances of shortening this war and limiting Ukrainian casualties.

Our friends in Ukraine may not seize all their territory back by the end of this year, or even well into next year, but there is no denying that the Ukrainians are making progress on the battlefield and that they outclass the Russian army in every intangible category essential for eventual victory. Instead of wringing our hands over the pace of their counteroffensive, Ukraine's friends and partners should bear down on providing as much consistent support as possible for as long as it takes for Ukrainians to win.

Dimmick is a former National Security Council director for Russia and currently Spirit of America's Europe regional program manager working to provide training and supplies to frontline Ukrainian soldiers.

# The Commercial Review



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—Thomas Jefferson

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# Toll ...

Continued from page 1  
 In a sign of some convergence after the tragedy, Libya's rival governments pledged two billion dinars (\$414 million) in assistance to Derna and other areas affected in the east. Neighboring Egypt dispatched its military chief of staff and other officers, along with relief supplies, while Algeria sent in its interior and health ministers, along with rescue workers, according to Arab state media.

Libya's situation "is the very definition of a disaster," Othman Abdel-Jaleel, health minister for Libya's east, said in a clip carried by Al Masar TV. "The corpses are still scattered" in various hospitals awaiting identification.

Libyan officials have previously put the death toll at no less than 2,300 people so far and said the number missing was anywhere from 5,000 to 9,000 — with that higher estimate equating to roughly 10% of Derna's population. Libya's envoy to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies told reporters in Geneva about 10,000 people were unaccounted for.

The death toll from storm Daniel has surpassed that of Hurricane Katrina, which struck the Gulf coast of the U.S. in 2005 and left over 1,800 dead — making it the second-deadliest storm in American modern history.

Khalifa Haftar, who heads the most powerful military force in Libya's east, said rescue efforts were underway. The Libyan National Army, which he heads, said Tuesday that 25%-45% of Derna had disappeared, according to Arab satellite channel Arabiya.

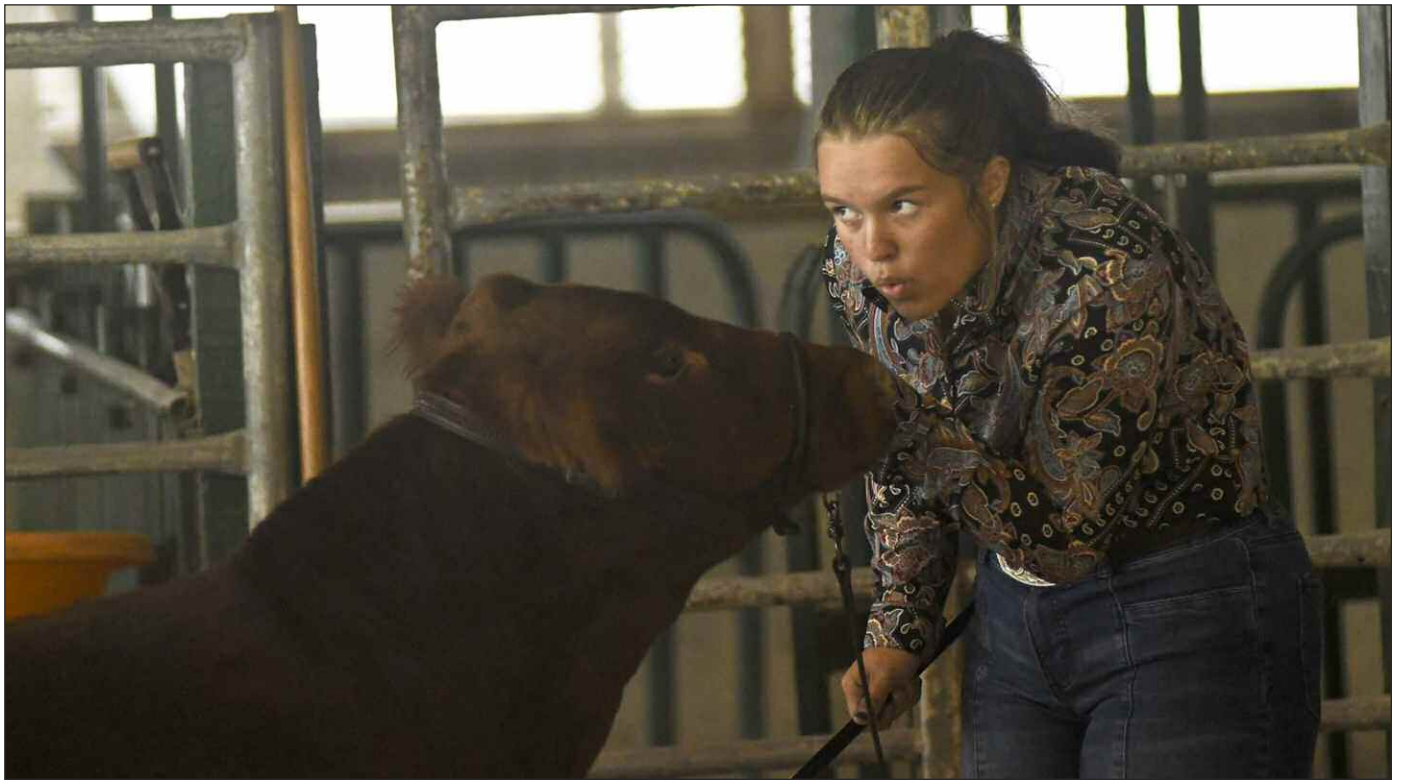
In an apparent effort to deflect potential blame in Derna, the LNA said it had issued repeated warnings in the area about the storm.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

## Busy fairgrounds

Jay County Fairgrounds was busy Saturday with the Jay County Cancer Cruise and Jay County Fall Classic Open Beef Show. Pictured above, Linda Leonhard of the cancer society checks in a visitor to the cancer cruise. Below, Danica Myers of Martinsville calms her cow during the beef show in the Show Arena.



# Fall HOME IMPROVEMENT

Our fall home improvement special section will be distributed in The Commercial Review (Portland), The News-Gazette (Winchester), The News Times (Hartford City) and The News and Sun (Dunkirk)

## IMPROVE-IT

full-page color – **\$500**

full-page B&W – **\$400**

1/2-page color – **\$400**

## PAINT-IT

1/2-page B&W – **\$320**

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1/4-page B&W – **\$280**

## FIX-IT

Big business card (3x3.5) – **\$120**

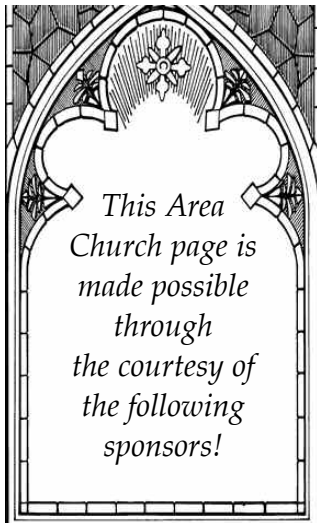
Business card (2x2) – **\$80**

Space for color ads is limited and will be on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Contact Lindsey at [L.Cochran@thecr.com](mailto:L.Cochran@thecr.com) or  
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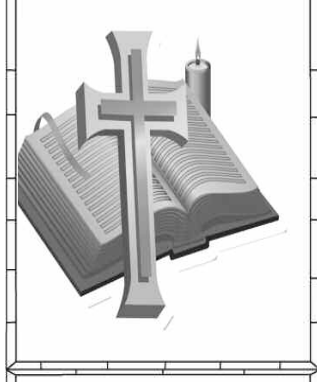
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Area churches are listed with location, pastor and phone number, services and website or email address. All services are Sunday, unless otherwise indicated.

**Asbury United Methodist**  
204 E. Arch St., Portland  
Joe Boggs  
(260) 726-8464  
Services: 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m.  
asburyministries.org

**Banner Christian Assembly of God**  
1217 W. Votaw St., Portland  
Michael Burk  
(260) 726-4282  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**Bellefontain United Methodist**  
440 S. 600 East  
Pamela Freeman  
Services: 9 a.m.

**Bethel United Methodist**  
Indiana 167, 4 miles north of Dunkirk  
Scott McClain  
Services: 10:45 a.m.

**Bluff Point Friends**  
80 E. 650 South  
Services: 10 a.m.  
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

**Boundary St. Paul**  
Corner of Treaty Line Road and county road 300 East  
Ava Gannon  
(260) 726-2373  
Services: 9:30 a.m.

**Bryant Wesleyan**  
209 S. Hendricks St.  
Paul VanCise  
(260) 997-6231  
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.  
bryantwesleyanchurch.com

**Calvary United Methodist**  
301 N. Main St., Dunkirk  
Susan Durovey-Antrim  
(765) 499-0368  
Services: 10:30 a.m.  
susan.duroveyantrim@in.unc.org

**Christ Chapel**  
105 S. Elm St., Fort Recovery  
Quentin Elsea  
(419) 733-1469  
christchapelfr.com

**Church of Christ (Southside)**  
1209 S. Shank St., Portland  
Bob Graham  
(260) 726-7777  
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6:30 p.m.

**Church of the Living God (Miracle Missions)**  
8472 S. 800 East, Union City  
Services: 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

**Church of God of Prophecy**  
797 N. Creager Ave., Portland  
Nanette Weesner  
(260) 766-9334  
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.  
nanybell@yahoo.com

**Church of the Brethren**  
Floral and Chicago avenues, Portland  
Kevin McClung  
(260) 729-7295  
Services: 10 a.m.

**Church of the Living God**  
South Broad Street, Dunkirk  
Services: 7 p.m., 7 p.m. Friday

**Collett Nazarene**  
450 South, 1 mile west of U.S. 27  
Billy Stanton  
(260) 251-2403  
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

**Cornerstone Baptist**  
211 E. Main St., Portland  
Wayne Ward  
(260) 726-7714  
Services: 10 a.m.

**Cornerstone Church of Pennville**  
190 W. Main St., Pennville  
Gary Newton  
(765) 669-1070  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**Dunkirk Nazarene**  
226 E. Center St., Dunkirk  
Tom Fett  
(765) 768-6199  
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

**Evangelical Methodist**  
930 W. Main St., Portland  
Steve Arnold  
(260) 251-0970  
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

**Fairview United Methodist/Jay County**  
2875 E. 200 South  
Pamela Freeman  
Lay leader: Beth Stephen  
(260) 726-9184  
Services: 10:15 a.m.

**Faith Community**  
9560 W. 200 South, Dunkirk  
Joe Schmit  
(260) 251-5254  
Services: 10 a.m.

**Family Worship Center**  
200 E. Elder St., Portland  
Ronald Willis  
(260) 726-4844  
Services: 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday  
thefamilyworshipcenter.org

**Fellowship Baptist**  
289 S. 200 West  
Hugh Kelly  
(260) 726-8873  
Services: 9 a.m., 11 a.m.  
Sunday school: 10 a.m.  
pastorkelly@fbc-portland.com

**First American Baptist**  
427 S. Main St., Dunkirk  
Dan Coffman  
(765) 768-7157  
Services: 10:40 a.m., 5 p.m.

**First Church of Christ**  
1049 Union City Road, Fort Recovery  
David J. Nicholson  
(419) 375-2860  
Services: 10:30 a.m.  
fcftrecovery.org

**First Community Baptist**  
341 S. Meridian St., Redkey  
Everett Bilbrey Jr.  
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

**First Free Will Baptist**  
12369 W. 600 South, Dunkirk  
Sunday school: 10 a.m.  
Services: 10:50 a.m., 6 p.m., 6 p.m. Wednesday

**First Presbyterian**  
402 N. Ship St., Portland  
Rev. M. Rex Espiritu  
(260) 726-8462  
Services: 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday school: 10:15 a.m.  
firstpcportland.org

**Fort Recovery Church of the Nazarene**  
401 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery  
Revs. Brad and Kate Ratliff  
(419) 375-4680  
Services: 10:30 a.m.  
frnaz@frontier.com

**Fort Recovery United Methodist**  
309 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery  
Rev. David Porath  
(419) 678-2071  
Services: 9 a.m.

**Full Gospel Lighthouse Tabernacle**  
468 E. Washington St., Dunkirk  
Robert Thomas  
(765) 348-4620  
Services: 6:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m. Thursday

**Geneva First United Methodist**  
100 W. Line St., Geneva  
Barry McCune  
(260) 368-7655  
Services: 9:30 a.m.

**Geneva Nazarene**  
225 Decatur St., Geneva  
(260) 525-8609  
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.  
Sunday school: 9 a.m.  
Prayer meeting: 6 p.m. Wednesday

**Gilead Church**  
County road 650 North, one-quarter mile east of Balbec  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**Hickory Grove Church of the Brethren**  
Indiana 1 and Indiana 26  
Earl Doll  
(260) 731-4477  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**High Street United Methodist**  
435 High St., Geneva  
Rev. Joseph Hampton  
(260) 368-7233  
Services: 9 a.m.

**Holy Trinity Catholic**  
7321 E. Indiana 67, Bryant  
Fr. Peter Logsdon  
Fr. Martin Sandhage  
Services: 8:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m. Saturday

**Hopewell of Life Ministries**  
County road 200 South, 2 miles east of Indiana 1  
Rev. Ruth Funk  
(260) 251-8581  
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

**Immaculate Conception Catholic**  
506 E. Walnut St., Portland  
Fr. Peter Logsdon  
Fr. Martin Sandhage  
(260) 726-7055  
Services: 5:30 p.m. Saturday, 10:30 a.m. Sunday

**Kingsley Full Gospel**  
4030 S. 700 East, Dunkirk  
Stuart Phillips  
Services: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday

**Mary Help of Christians**  
403 Sharpsburg Road, Fort Recovery  
Rev. Alexander Witt  
(419) 375-4153  
Services: 4:30 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m.

**Mount Tabor United Methodist**  
216 W. Pleasant St., Dunkirk  
John Retter  
(765) 768-7273  
Services: 9 a.m.

**Mount Zion United Methodist**  
County roads 600 East and 200 North  
Rev. Darrell Borders  
(260) 726-4786  
Services: 9 a.m.

**New Beginnings Holiness Church of Blaine**  
4017 W. 200 South  
Randy Smith  
(260) 251-2406  
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.  
nbholiness.com

**New Covenant Fellowship**  
1238 W. 450 South  
Chuck Myers  
(260) 251-0063  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**New Life Ministries**  
415 S. Helen St., Portland  
Dr. Kay Fairchild  
(260) 755-6354  
Services: 4 p.m.  
drkayfairchild.com

**New Mt. Pleasant United Methodist**  
5905 S. Como Road  
Neil Butcher  
(765) 499-7838  
Services: 9 a.m.

**Noble Congregational Christian**  
1964 N. 800 East  
Aaron Huey  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**Oak Grove United Methodist**  
829 S. Indiana 1  
Neil Butcher  
(765) 760-9085  
Services: 10:45 a.m.

**Pleasant Hill**  
9945 N. 800 East, Union City  
Bruce Bryan  
(765) 964-3664  
Services: 9 a.m., 6 p.m.  
mypleasanthillchurch.org

**Portland First Church of Nazarene**  
920 S. Shank St., Portland  
Steve Cecil  
(260) 726-8040  
Services: 10:45 a.m.

**Portland Friends**  
226 E. Main St., Portland  
Herb Hummel  
(260) 202-9732  
Services: 10 a.m.  
Sunday school: 9 a.m.

**Praise Chapel Church of God**  
4527 E. 1000 North (Jay-Randolph county line)  
Rev. Josh Canfield  
(765) 584-7045  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**Redeemer Lutheran**  
Malin and Elm streets, Bryant  
Father Dan Layden  
(260) 997-6787  
Services: 9:30 a.m.

**Redkey Faith Ministries**  
9811 W. Indiana 67, southwest of Redkey  
Rev. Craig and Robin Cotherman  
(765) 369-2920  
Services: 10 a.m.  
RedkeyFaith.org

**Redkey First Christian**  
Union and Malin streets  
Jeff Hammers  
(765) 468-6172  
Services: 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

**Redkey United Methodist**  
122 W. Main St.  
Lori McIntosh  
(765) 369-2085  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**Redkey Church of the Nazarene**  
801 W. High St.  
Chuck Hollandbeck  
(765) 369-2676  
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday

**River of Life**  
722 W. Main St., Portland  
Susan Hathaway  
(260) 729-1095  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**The ROCK**  
1605 N. Meridian St., Portland  
Matt Ransom  
(260) 726-7474  
Services: 10 a.m.  
matt@therockjc.org

**Salamonia Church of Christ**  
3900 S. 600 East  
Bruce Phillips  
(260) 335-2017  
Services: 9 a.m.

**Second Chance at Life Ministries**  
228 S. Meridian St., Portland  
Dave Keen (260) 251-8792  
Mike Eads (260) 703-0733  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**St. Joseph Catholic**  
1689 St. Joe Road, Fort Recovery  
Rev. Alexander Witt  
Services: 7:30 a.m. Sunday

**St. Mary's Catholic**  
346 S. Broad St., Dunkirk  
Rev. Kevin Hurley  
Services: 5 p.m. Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Thursday

**St. Paul Catholic**  
517 Meiring Road, Fort Recovery  
Rev. Alexander Witt  
Services: 11 a.m. Sunday

**St. Peter Catholic**  
1477 Philothea Road, Fort Recovery  
Rev. Alexander Witt  
Services: 9 a.m. Sunday

**Sugar Grove Nazarene**  
County roads 400 North and 550 West  
Rev. Mike Heckman  
(260) 731-4733  
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m. (the 2nd and 4th Sunday at Pennville Park from June through September)

**Sugar Grove United Methodist**  
County roads 600 South and 1150 West, Dunkirk  
Scott McClain  
Services: 9 a.m.

**Temple Baptist**  
17920 Indiana 167, Dunkirk  
John Elam  
(765) 768-7708  
Sunday school: 10 a.m.  
Services: 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday  
7pillarsdirector@gmail.com  
templebaptistin.com

**The Church at Westchester**  
4487 E. 400 North  
(260) 726-6311  
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.  
Services: 10:35 a.m.  
churchatwestchester.org

**Trinity Lutheran**  
301 N. Wayne St., Fort Recovery  
Robin Owen  
(419) 375-4498  
Services: 9 a.m. (contemporary service, fourth Sunday)  
pastorrobino@gmail.com

**Trinity ArchBridge Church**  
323 S. Meridian St., Portland  
(260) 729-2554  
Services: 9 a.m.  
Sunday school: 10:15 a.m.  
Hispanic: 1 p.m.  
portlandtrinity.com

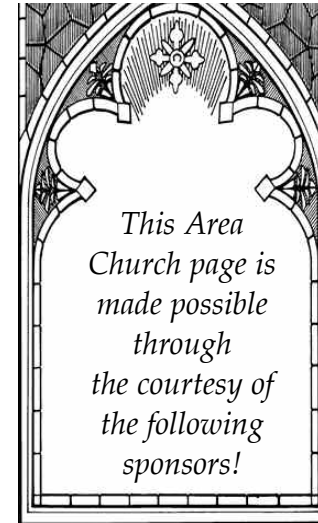
**Union Chapel**  
6200 N. 375 West, Bryant  
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

**Union Chapel Church of the Nazarene**  
County road 900 North (Jay-Wells county line)  
Fred Stevens  
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

**Walnut Corner**  
County roads 200 North and 500 West  
Steve Rogers  
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Services: 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

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Gil Alicea  
(260) 726-4691  
Services: 10 a.m.  
westwalnutchurchof-christ.org

**Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
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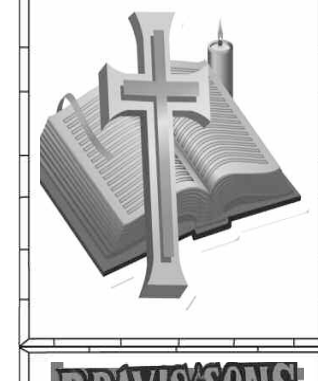
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**THE FAMILY CIRCUS** By Bil Keane



**Contract Bridge** By Steve Becker  
**Eliminating the guesswork**

South dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ 63  
♥ K J 9 4  
♦ A Q J 10 5  
♣ J 2

**EAST**  
♠ J 8 7 4 2  
♥ 6  
♦ 7 6 3  
♣ A 9 8 6

**SOUTH**  
♠ A  
♥ Q 10 8 5 2  
♦ K 9 8 2  
♣ K Q 3

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1♥ 1♠ 2♠ 4♠  
5♦ Pass 5♥

Opening lead — four of diamonds.

Assume you're West, defending against five hearts. You could lead a spade, of course, because partner raised spades, but your best chance of defeating the contract lies in leading a diamond. Your hope is that partner has an ace, in which case you're apt to beat the contract when you get in with the ace of trump, put partner on lead with his ace and get a diamond ruff for a one-trick set.

**Declarer wins the diamond** with the ace and leads a low heart to the queen at trick two. It would be easy to go wrong at this point. If you take the ace and lead a spade to partner's presumed ace, you wind up behind the eight ball. Declarer wins, draws trump and concedes a club to the ace to make the contract.

You could plead that East was more likely to have the spade ace than the club ace, but that would not be a good excuse for failing to guess which one he actually had.

Instead of consigning the guess to pure chance, it is far better to duck the first trump lead and take the second. This gives your partner a chance to signal with a high spade or a high club, depending on his hand, and in that way all guesswork is eliminated.

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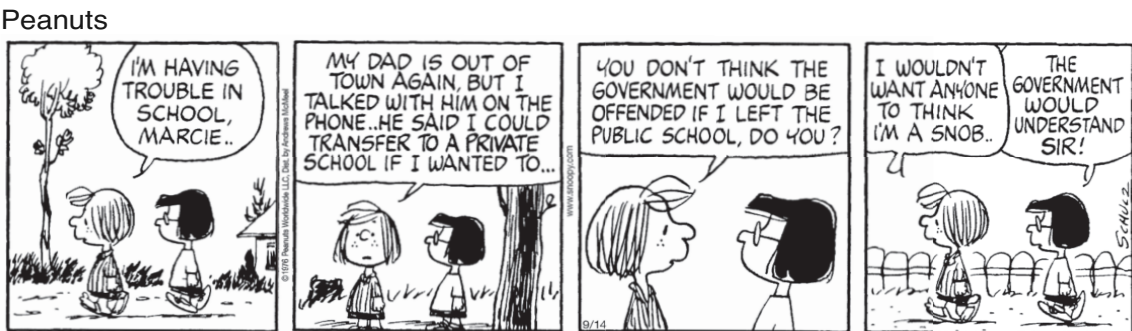
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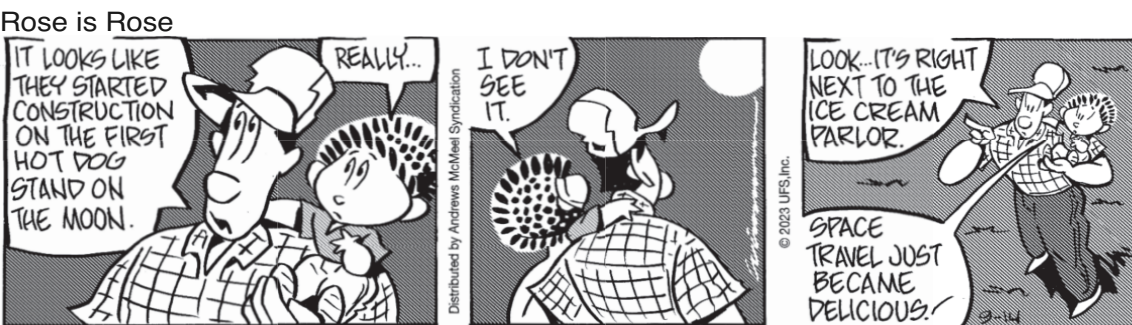
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Advertising Deadline is 12:00 p.m. the day prior to publication. The deadline for Mondays paper is 12:00 p.m. Friday. Pre-Payment required for: Rummage sales, business opportunities, jobs wanted, boats and sporting equipment, wanted to rent, motorized vehicles, real estate and mobile homes.

**Peanuts**




**Rose is Rose**



**Agnes**




**Hi and Lois**



**Between Friends**



**Blondie**



**Snuffy Smith**



**Beetle Bailey**



9-14 **CRYPTOQUIP**

CW T OZU JQDSY T GQJBCDO  
GTDS HM T LTDS MW  
WMZI-YHICDO OZCHTI BJTUQIY,  
GQ TYYCYHY LTYCYHY.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT WOULD YOU CALL SONGBIRDS ADHERING TO QUAINLY OLD-FASHIONED BELIEFS? SQUARE FINCHES.  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: O equals G

**CROSSWORD** By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Drench product  
4 Chumps  
8 Towering  
12 Rage  
13 Subsequently  
14 Ending for buck  
15 Emmy-winning comedy-drama about soccer coaching and compassion  
17 Close  
18 Prof's helpers  
19 Paper-folding art  
21 Giraffe cousins  
24 Away from WSW  
25 — de mer  
26 Erie Canal mule  
28 Glob  
32 "My Way" composer Paul  
34 Fanatic  
36 Abbr. on a phone

**37 Pine**  
39 Cistern  
41 Fish story  
42 Central lectures  
44 Debt indicator  
46 Clap for the performers  
50 Game caller  
51 Demolish in Dover  
52 Told a story  
56 Elevator name  
57 China (Pref.)  
58 Notable time  
59 Legend-ary loch  
60 Despot  
61 Parched

**DOWN**

22 Welles portrayal  
23 — Diego  
27 Candy heart  
4 Equilibrium word  
29 Filled with optimism  
6 Cuban money  
7 Snoozer's racket  
8 Hybrid fruit  
9 Bailiwick  
10 Clay-rich soil  
11 Petty of "Tank Girl"  
16 Pool unit  
20 Business mag  
21 Poet Khayyam  
47 Top of the head  
48 Greek letters  
49 Talking point?  
53 Genetic letters  
54 Mess up  
55 24 hours

**Solution time: 24 mins.**

Yesterday's answer 9-14

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12 |    |    | 13 |    |    |    |    |    | 14 |    |
| 15 |    |    | 16 |    |    |    |    |    | 17 |    |
|    |    | 18 |    |    | 19 |    | 20 |    |    |    |
| 21 | 22 |    |    | 23 |    | 24 |    |    |    |    |
| 25 |    |    | 26 |    | 27 |    | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |
| 32 |    | 33 |    | 34 |    | 35 |    | 36 |    |    |
| 37 |    |    | 38 |    | 39 |    | 40 |    | 41 |    |
|    |    |    | 42 |    | 43 |    | 44 |    | 45 |    |
| 46 | 47 | 48 |    |    | 49 |    | 50 |    |    |    |
| 51 |    |    |    |    | 52 |    | 53 |    | 54 | 55 |
| 56 |    |    |    |    | 57 |    |    |    | 58 |    |
| 59 |    |    |    |    | 60 |    |    |    | 61 |    |

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## Jets ...



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County High School's Sophie Saxman (10) and Hallie Schwieterman (1) go up for a block on Adam Central's Maci Henry on Tuesday. The Patriots fell to the Jets 25-16, 18-25, 25-15, 25-14 for their second loss in Allen County Athletic Conference play this season. Pictured on page 10, JCHS sophomore Paisley Fugiett (13 on right) attacks a ball as Henry (13 on left) and Hillary Tobias (4) attempt to block the play.

Continued from page 10  
Adams Central came out the other end of the run with a 20-12 lead, and later took the set 25-16.

The second set went a lot better for the Patriots. They put together four runs of three or more points, the largest being a six-pointer that helped put together a 18-7 lead.

Mya Kunkler excelled at attacking the ball during the stretch as she racked up five kills. She added another kill and a block near the end of the set as the Patriots earned their sole win in the match 25-18.

Kunkler, in her first year at the varsity level, struggled to catch up to the speed of the game earlier in the

year but has started to figure it out. She's led JCHS in kills in two of its last three matches, including a team-high 11 Tuesday.

"In the beginning of the year it was really fast for me," Kunkler said. "I wasn't expecting anything that fast, but I'm starting to get there on time now."

"I'm looking to find the open spot and hit there because I'm not a heavy swinger."

Laila Waddell followed Kunkler with eight kills.

To start the third set, Adams Central punched Jay County with two four-point runs to develop an 8-1 lead. Five of the eight points came from Hillary Tobias and Maci Henry,

who combined for 25 kills in the match.

"I thought the second set, we looked really, really good, started playing smart, started mixing some stuff up," Dillon said. "And then I don't know what happened."

The Jets also put together a big run early in the fourth set in which they scored seven unanswered.

After Bella Denton hit a ball too long, Tobias got the ball to serve. Over the next five serves, she aced the Patriots four times.

The first ace was a ball that was perfectly placed in the back right corner of the court, where it was left to drop. The next one was bat-

ted around by the Patriots, but wasn't able to be returned. The final two hit off of Jay County defenders who just couldn't handle the return.

"We had a good team effort and everybody played a role in our win," ACHS coach Tami Henry said. "We served tough to keep them out of system so they couldn't use (Denton)."

While Dillon wasn't pleased with the overall performance of the Patriots in the match, she made a change that she was fond of and will likely continue to implement going forward.

That change was moving Brenna Haines from the left corner of the back row to the middle.

"I really liked that I moved her to the middle back," Dillon said. "She asked at the beginning of the game, 'Am I gonna have to stay here?' I said, 'Do you know how many balls you dug back there tonight that we don't normally pick up?'"

Haines finished with a team-high 26 digs in the match.

### Junior varsity

The JV team managed to defeat the Jets 25-14, 25-14.

Lydia Johnson had a team-high five kills in the match.

The most points came when Carley Trinidad was serving. She finished with 11 points, three of which were aces.

### Junior High

The Jay County Junior High volleyball team suffered their first loss to Adams Central Middle School 25-22, 21-21, 15-9.

Brenna Ruble had the most points with nine, as well as three aces, three digs and one kill.

Gabi Petro led the defensive effort for the Patriots (7-1). She had eight digs.

Amelia Heath led the attack at the net with three kills and three blocks.



## Review preview

Friday - 7 p.m.

### Bluffton Tigers

Bluffton, 4-0 (2-0 ACAC)

**Coach:** Brent Kunkle, seventh year

**Conference:** Allen County

**Last week vs. Woodlan:** Tucker

Jenkins led the Tigers to a 28-0 win over the Woodlan Warriors to remain undefeated heading into week five. Jenkins rushed for 107 yards on 15 carries in the game to score two times on the ground. He also had 61 receiving yards and a touchdown.

**Season leaders:** Passing — Braxton Betancourt — 17-for-31 for 303 yards and six TDs. Rushing — Tucker Jenkins — 35 carries for 282 yards and three TDs. Receiving — Andrew Hunt — seven receptions for 129 yards and one TD.

at

### Jay County Patriots

Portland, 3-1 (1-1 ACAC)

**Coach:** Grant Zgunda, third year (26th overall)

**Conference:** Allen County

**Last week at Adams Central:** Jay County held Adams Central scoreless in the first quarter before the flood gates opened in a 42-7 loss. The Patriots' only score came on a 26-yard pass to Benson Ward in the fourth. They gave up 282 yards to the Jets.

**Season leaders:** Passing — Sean Bailey — 32-of-49 for 577 yards and eight TDs. Rushing — A.J. Myers — 86 carries for 374 yards and five TDs. Receiving — Justin DeHoff — nine receptions for 264 yards and three TDs. Defense — Garrett Benett — 28 tackles and two tackles for loss.

**Last meeting:** Kadin Ridenour ripped off a 40-yard run to set up a one-yard rushing touchdown for Sean Bailey halfway through the first quarter. After that, Bluffton held Jay County to only 53 yards of offense as they scored 43 unanswered points. The Tigers finished with over 100 more passing and rushing yards than the Patriots.

**Game notes:** JCHS has 628 passing yards thus far in 2022 after finishing the '21 season with 439 yards ... Bluffton is 4-0 for the first time in over a decade ... Three Tigers rushed for over 100 yards in their week 3 victory over South Adams with the team sitting with over 1000 rushing yards ... The Patriots hold a 6-5 edge all-time against Bluffton ... Jay County has a 38.92 Sagarin rating, which is 208th overall and 49th in Class 4A. Bluffton's 67.38 rating is 72nd overall and 2nd in Class 2A ... Calpreps.com has Bluffton as a 30-point favorite.

## Roundup ...

Continued from page 10  
**Junior varsity wins**

The Fort Recovery junior varsity girls golf team found itself a 208-227 win against St. Henry on

Tuesday.

Evvia Briner of the Indians earned match medalist honors as she shot a 49.

St. Henry's low score came

from Haley Lange, who shot a 51.

Also shooting a 51 was Fort Recovery sophomore Mallory Evers.

Rounding out the Indians'

team score were Georgia Wening with a 53 and Ella Westerges with a 55.

Rylee Bubb's score of 56 strokes did not qualify for the

team score.

St. Henry's other scores came from Kiva Molder (54), Sophie Gerlach (61) and Eva Schmitz (61).

## Sports on tap

### Local schedule

**Today**  
Jay County — Boys soccer vs. Belmont — 5 p.m.; Boys tennis at Winchester — 5 p.m.; Girls soccer at Belmont — 7 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Girls golf vs. New Bremen at Mercer County Elks — 4:30 p.m.;

Volleyball at Delphos St. John — 5:30 p.m.; Middle School football vs. Delphos St. John's — 5:30 p.m.; Middle School volleyball at Celina — 5:30 p.m.

**Friday**  
Jay County — Football vs. Bluffton — 7:30 p.m.; Junior High cross country at Selma — 4:45 p.m.

### TV sports

**Today**  
7:15 p.m. — MLB: New York Yankees at Boston Red Sox (FOX)  
7:30 p.m. — NCAA Football: Navy at Memphis (ESPN)

**Friday**  
5:30 a.m. — Formula 1: Singapore

Grand Prix (ESPN2)  
7 p.m. — NCAA Football: Virginia at Maryland (FS1)  
7 p.m. — NCAA Football: Army at UTSA (ESPN)

### Local notes

**Turkey Trot Signup**  
Cooper Farms will be hosting its 16th

annual Turkey Trot Saturday, Nov. 4 at the Cooper Farms Turkey Harvesting Plant in St. Henry, Ohio.

Participation costs \$15. All proceeds benefit EverHeart Hospice.

The Race will begin at 10 a.m. There will be splits at each mile of the 3.1-mile course. There will also be chip timing for participants, ran by Speedy Feet. Water will be provided throughout the

race, as well as a to-go turkey meal at the end.

You can register by visiting <http://bit.ly/cooperfarmsturkeytrot>, or registration will open at 9 a.m. at Cooper Farms on the day of the race.

To have an event listed in "Sports on tap," email details to [sports@thecr.com](mailto:sports@thecr.com).

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#### 260-729-2229

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TIME 10:00 A.M. LOCATED: 3430 W ST RD 67. PORTLAND, IN

ANTIQUES-COLLECTIBLES

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### 90 SALE CALENDAR

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JAY COUNTY



VS.



Bluffton  
Tigers

GAME  
TIME

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Jay County tennis notches senior night victory, see related story

# Sports

Patriots boys soccer hosts Belmont today, see Sports on tap

## Jets fly by Pats

By ANDREW BALKO  
The Commercial Review

The Patriots only had control of one set Tuesday.

The other three were dominated by the Jets, whose strong serves kept Jay County out of system for most of the night.

The Jay County High School volleyball team couldn't find a rhythm Tuesday, as the Adams Central Jets kept control for a majority of the Patriots' 25-16, 18-25, 25-14, 25-15 loss.

"I'm a little frustrated with the girls tonight and don't think they put up a big fight tonight for those games," JCHS coach Amy Dillon said. "I just really honestly felt like mentally our

girls just weren't really here tonight. I just kind of felt like they were checked out."

The first set went back and forth for the first 19 points. With an 11-8 lead, the Patriots (5-7, 1-2 Allen County Athletic Conference) started to slip.

A pair of mistakes by Jay County began what would be a 12-point run by Adams Central (10-6, 2-0 ACAC). Along with the violations, the Jets scored points on three aces by Mati Henry, two kills from Hillary Tobias, a block from Jenna Cook and three more Jay County errors. The run only ended after the Patriots used their second timeout.

See Jets page 8



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

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## Seniors pull out ACAC win

The Patriots' hopes for an Allen County Conference Championship are still alive.

The Jay County High School boys tennis team kept their hopes alive with a 4-1 victory over the Adams Central Jets during senior night on Tuesday.

The win means if Jay County takes care of business against South Adams and someone else can upset Bluffton, they can still walk away as co-champions.

The No. 2 singles and No. 1 doubles positions had the easiest times. Eli Dirksen only lost one game to Ethan Gentis 6-1, 6-0. Tyler Ausland and Krew Clark only got one extra game against Sam Myers and Gage Sims in a 6-0, 6-2 victory.

Isaac Miller and Luke Muhlenkamp also only lost two games in the No. 2 doubles match for the Patriots (7-8, 1-1 ACAC). They took down Chris Espinosa and Mason Fruechte 6-1, 6-1.

Abraham Dirksen was able to get past Ean Brown in the No. 1 singles match 6-3, 7-5.

Liam Garringer suffered the only loss for Jay County. He lost to his No. 3 singles opponent, Logan Heiman, 6-1, 6-2.

The junior varsity team fell 3-2. They got wins from Gabe Pinkerton and Jacob Monroe.

### Defense stifles

The Jay County boys soccer team picked up a win as they blanked the Richmond Red Devils for a 2-0 victory Tuesday.

There were 12 shots taken at the goals in the match, seven by the Patriots (3-2-2, 1-1 ACAC) and five from Richmond (4-5-1).

Dylan Marentes broke open the scoring with a goal at the 10:22 minute mark of the first half.

He would spark another

### Local roundup

er goal later in the half as he connected for an assist to Levi Muhlenkamp with only 58 seconds left in the half. Kaleb Coppock sent back all five shots that the Red Devils took at the goal.

The other five shot attempts came from Muhlenkamp (two), Hugo Gutierrez, Alan Ortiz and Emmitt Reynolds.

### Snow medals

For the fifth time this season, Maddy Snow was the match medalist as Jay County's girls golf team hosted the Southern Wells Raiders to close the regular season Tuesday at Portland Golf Club.

The Patriots, who will compete in the sectional Saturday at Crestview Golf Club, only had three golfers in the match, not qualifying for a team score.

Snow finished her round with 44 strokes. She parred twice in the match on the 284-yard, par-4 third hole and the 119-yard, par-3 eighth.

She had five bogeys as well on holes No. 2, 4, 5, 6 and 9.

Southern Well's Coby Beavans had the best score for the Raiders, shooting a 46. The Raiders finished with a team score of 218.

Brooklynn Bright had the second-lowest score for Jay County. The sole bogey from her round came on the third hole. She finished with a 61.

Whitney McIntire was the other golfer to participate for the Patriots. She finished with 68 strokes.

See Roundup page 8

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